

post, removal of or dismissal from service, compulsory retirement, stoppage of passes or recorded warnings were issued to Railway Staff held responsible.

(e)

Zonal Railway	No. of accidents from 1.11.1999 to 25.7.2000
Central Railway	37
Eastern Railway	24
Northern Railway	56
North Eastern Railway	18
Northeast Frontier Railway	72
Southern Railway	37
South Central Railway	35
South Eastern Railway	46
Western Railway	22
Metro Railway	—
Konkan Railway	4
TOTAL:	351

Persons living on Railway Property

1510. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are trying to displace those settlers who have been living on Railway land for long;

(b) if so, whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has been informed of such intention by the Railways;

(c) whether the Railways have handled the issue with a degree of sensitivity to the poor people's plight;

(d) what steps are proposed by the Railways to meet and interact; and

(e) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Removal of encroachers from Railway land is a continuous process which is undertaken under the provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971, to ensure hazard free train operation and for ensuring the safety of life and property of those settling unauthorisedly very close to the railway tracks. The policy of rehabilitation of unauthorised occupants of Government land is presently under review by the Central Government.

Establishing a Broad Band Multimedia Network along Railways

1511. **SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of "Relpathe OFC Patha Niye Aaj Katha Cabinete" published in Ananda Bazar Patrika on 18th July, 2000;

(b) if so, whether Government are concretising the project for establishing a broad band multimedia network along the Railways; and

(c) if so, the approximate cost of the project, the agency for implementing the project, the nature and equity structure of the agency, the *Modus Operandi* of selecting the consultant and other details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Railways have taken steps for developing a business plan for the project which would be implemented through the medium of a professionally managed Corporation proposed to be set up. Decisions regarding the nature and equity structure of the Corporation, cost of project etc. would be taken after studying the business plan. An open and transparent procedure has been adopted for selection of consultant. 'Expressions of interest' have been invited from reputed consultants and a broadbased task-force consisting of Representative of Ministries of Communications, Finance, Law Justice & Company Affairs is assisting Railways in selecting the consultant.